



Monroe Lake

Program Schedule January to March 2016

Website

stateparks.in.gov/2954.htm



E-Newsletter

bit.ly/monroeprograms



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Monroe Lake Office (Paynetown SRA): 4850 S. State Road 446, Bloomington, IN 47401, 812-837-9546
Monroe Lake Naturalist (Paynetown SRA: Activity Center): Jill Vance, 812-837-9967, jvance@dnr.IN.gov

Campground Reservations (Paynetown SRA): 866-622-6746, CAMP.IN.gov

Lake Monroe General Store and Boat Rental (at Paynetown SRA): 812-837-9909

Four Winds Resort & Marina, Boat Rental (at Fairfax SRA): 812-824-2628, fourwindsresort.com

Lake Monroe Marina and Boat Rental (at Cutright SRA): 812-837-9394, lakemonroemarina.com

Laura Thorne Training, kayaks - SUPs - wind surfing - lessons (at Fairfax SRA): 812-797-4747



Paynetown Fossil Dig Love searching for fossils? Check out our Fossil Dig at the **back end of the Overflow Parking Area** at Paynetown SRA! Although rock and fossil collecting is prohibited at Monroe Lake, any rocks and fossils found *in this activity site* can be taken home with you! Available year-round.



3rd Annual First Day Trail Run and Walk Friday, January 1 at Fairfax SRA

Registration/Check-In at Bay View Shelter:

2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Run/Walk Start Time: 3:30 p.m.

This is an untimed, non-competitive run/walk. Choose from a long course (3.5 to 4.5 miles) through forest and fields, or short course (1.5 to 2 miles) through the woods.

Pre-registration is \$15 Deadline is December 30.

- Pre-registration includes the post-event **hors d'oeuvres buffet** at the Fourwinds Resort (located inside Fairfax SRA).
- First 300 people to pre-register receive a **commemorative patch** and a **\$15 gift certificate** for the restaurants at the Fourwinds Resort.

Same-day registration is \$15

Same-day registration includes the post-event **hors d'oeuvres buffet** at the Fourwinds Resort (located inside Fairfax SRA).

Pre-registration and additional event details at <http://bit.ly/firstdaytrail2016>

Winter Exploration Hike Series



This series features off-trail hiking through lesser-known areas of Monroe Lake. These are exploratory in nature so there is no “set” path; we’ll have a general route in mind, but plenty of freedom to veer off as things of interest catch our eyes. Hikers should be prepared for the possibility of rugged terrain, lack of formal toilet facilities, and lots of fun! **Each hike lasts 1.5 to 2 hours.**

All of the Winter Exploration Hikes are FREE, but online REGISTRATION is required for each hike by the specified date. **Registration for each hike is LIMITED to 20 people.** Registrants are sent an email with driving directions to the meeting location and additional details the day prior to each hike.

Tuesday, January 12: Upper Friendship Fields and Forest at 1:30p
(Location: Stillwater-Northfork Wildlife Area)

Register by January 10 at <http://bit.ly/wehs2016-1>

Tuesday, January 26: Lower Friendship Fields and Floodplains at 1:30p
(Location: Stillwater-Northfork Wildlife Area)

Register by January 24 at <http://bit.ly/wehs2016-2>

Tuesday, February 9: Combs Road at 1:30p (Location: Southfork Marshes)

Register by February 7 at <http://bit.ly/wehs2016-3>

Tuesday, February 23: Kirks Ford Road at 1:30p (Location: Southfork Marshes)

Register by February 21 at <http://bit.ly/wehs2016-4>

Tuesday, March 1: Geode Hill at 2:30p (Location: Fairfax SRA)

Register by February 28 at <http://bit.ly/wehs2016-5>

Tuesday, March 15: Moores Creek at 2:30p (Location: Moores Creek SRA)

Register by March 13 at <http://bit.ly/wehs2016-6>



Candlelight Owl Hike

Tuesday, February 2 at 6:30 p.m.

- Sign up at <http://bit.ly/candleowl2016>
- Register by January 31.
- Limited to 20 people.
- Location: Fairfax SRA

Today is the traditional start of the spring season. And although it probably doesn’t feel like spring to you, quite a few wild animals would disagree. Believe it or not, it’s the middle of courting and mating season for our local owls! The naturalist will attempt to “call in” one or more of these owls during an evening walk along a luminary-lighted wooded trail. *60 minutes*

Lunch with Nature Series



This program series is now in its third year! Bring a sack lunch to enjoy inside during the main presentation. Afterwards, there is a short hike/activity (may be inside or outside) that highlights the topic. The series is recommended for adult, or focused teenage, learners. **Each program lasts about 90 minutes.**

Programs in this series are FREE, but online REGISTRATION is required for each program by the specified date. **Registration for each program is LIMITED to 12 people.** All programs take place at the **Activity Center in Paynetown SRA.**

Monday, January 25 at 11:00 a.m.: Register by January 21 at <http://bit.ly/lwn2016jan>

This month's topic is: The Whistle Pig. You may know this animal better by its more common name, "groundhog." But how much do you really about it? And what is the deal with predicting the end of winter?

Monday, February 29 at 11:00 a.m.: Register by February 24 at <http://bit.ly/lwn2016feb>

This month's topic is: Animal Scat. Everybody poops! But how do you know who dropped the doo-doo? We'll learn how to analyze scat to identify the animal – and more.

Monday, March 28 at 11:00 a.m.: Register by March 24 at <http://bit.ly/lwn2016mar>

This month's topic is: Rats and Mice. It's time for lifestyles of the small and persistent: field mice, house mice, and the Norway rat. Where did they come from? How do they live? Are you stuck with them in your house?

Maple Tree Hike

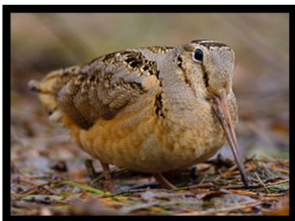
Sunday, March 6 at 2:00 p.m.



- Sign up at <http://bit.ly/mapletree2016>
- Register by March 1.
- Limited to 20 people.
- Cost is \$5 per person.
- Location: Fairfax SRA



Everything maple! Hike through the woods to learn about maple tree identification, legends, and superstitions, see a demonstration on how to tap a maple tree for to obtain its sugary sap, and finish by sampling maple sugar and different types of maple syrup. *2 hours*



Woodcock Walk Tuesday, March 29 at 8:00 p.m.

- Sign up at <http://bit.ly/woodcock2016>
- Register by March 27.
- Limited to 15 people.
- Program Location: Fairfax SRA



American woodcocks begin their search for a mate in early spring. As the sun goes down, we'll try to sneak a peek at the male courtship behavior.

The combination of a distinct call and an aerial display make this an enjoyable bird to both watch and hear! *45 minutes*